

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated August 4, 2003, claims 1-12 are noted as pending.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Gephardt et al., European patent application 0676686 (Hereinafter referred to as "Gephardt").

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Gephardt does not disclose "asserting an edge-triggered interrupt signal from an input/output interrupt controller located within a system logic device to a local interrupt controller located within a processor" (emphasis added) as claimed in claim 1. Gephardt discloses one interrupt controller located in the integrated processor 202, and does not disclose a distributed interrupt controller architecture as claimed in the independent claims and as described in Applicant's specification. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by the Gephardt reference.

The comments above in connection with claim 1 are also applicable to independent claims 5 and 9. For these reasons, claims 1-12 are not anticipated by Gephardt.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-12 are distinguished over the cited art and are in condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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